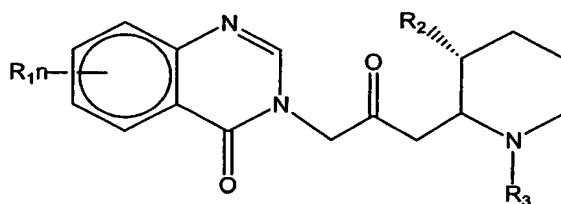


Kindly amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims:

1-23. (Previously canceled)

24. (Currently amended): A method for inhibiting a pathological increase in collagen volume in heart tissue, the method comprising the step of administering to a subject a compound having a formula:



wherein the subject has been exposed to a promoter of cardiac fibrosis and the step of administering the compound is before the subject exhibits a cardiac fibrotic condition; and

~~wherein:~~

wherein R₁ is a member of the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, nitro, benzo, lower alkyl, phenyl and lower alkoxy; R₂ is a member of the group consisting of hydroxy, acetoxy and lower alkoxy; R₃ is a member of the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkenoxy-

carbonyl; and n is either 1 or 2; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claims 24 or 28, wherein the compound is halofuginone.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (new) The method according to claim 24, wherein the promoter of cardiac fibrosis is elevated angiotensin II.